Maine’s Credit Unions
Financial Fitness Fairs
Founded in 2004, Maine credit unions introduced a new concept in youth financial education through Financial Fitness - A Money Management Experience. This award-winning, half-day event targets high school juniors and seniors and is similar to the game of "LIFE," where participating students are given a career and monthly income and then have to visit booths associated with various expenses that the average adult is faced with each month.
Costs, such as transportation, housing, clothing, food, student loans, insurance and several other everyday expenses, are filled in on a monthly budget form by each student. At the end of the event, the goal is for students to have monthly budget that does not exceed monthly income.

During the 2013/14 school year, more than 5,500 students participated/will participate in one of the nearly 30 fairs that were coordinated by Maine credit unions.

Since 2004, more than 20,000 high school students have participated in one of the fairs.
Booths

- Credit
- Clothing
- Education
- Food
- Fun Stuff
- Transportation
- Housing
- Savings & Investments
- Insurance
- Home Furnishings
What students are saying

"This was a fantastic experience for me. I am going to work a year or so before I go to college and this gave me a lot to think about. I feel better prepared today thanks to this activity. It was well worth it!"

– Lake Region High School Senior, Age 18
I never realized that managing money was so important. I'm so glad I had a chance to come today. When I go off to college in a year, what I learned today will give me a lot more confidence in how to budget."

- Madawaska High School Junior, Age 16
2013/14 Fairs

- Portland High School (held October 2013)
- Erskine Academy (held October 2013)
- Scarborough High School (held October 2013)
- Windham High School (held November 2013)
- Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School (held March 2014)
- Aroostook Chapter of Credit Unions - high schools from throughout the County (March 2014)
- Kennebec Valley Chapter of Credit Unions – high schools from Augusta/Waterville region (March 2014)
- Bonny Eagle High School (March 2014)
- Cony High School (April 2014)
- Lake Regional High School (April 2014)
- Five County CU’s Waterville Area Fair at Thomas College (April 2014)
- Marshwood High School (April 2014)
- Norm Nolette Chapter of Credit Unions – high schools from Lewiston/Auburn region (April 2014)
- Northern Penobscot Chapter of Credit Unions – high schools from Northern Penobscot County (April 2014)
- Windham High School (second fair in April 2014)
- Washington County High Schools (April 2014)
- Bangor Chapter of Credit Unions - high schools from Bangor area (May 2014)
- Thornton Academy (May 2014)
- Dixfield High School (May 2014)
- Falmouth High School (June 2014)
- Maine Correctional Center (June 2014)
- Mountain Valley High School (TBD)

Several other smaller fairs have been held and/or are planned.
Bangor Chapter Annual Financial Fitness Fair
Alexander Ferguson Chapter of Credit Unions
Lake Region High School